

York University  
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies  
**Studies in Sexual Regulation**  
AS/SOCI 4490 3.0 (Fall 2019)

Course Director: Sheila L. Cavanagh  
Lecture: Mondays, 7:00-10:00, HNE 101  
Office Address: 322 Founders College  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
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**NOTE:** Please do not e-mail Dr. Cavanagh for interpretations of the course readings or lectures. Dr. Cavanagh will be available to answer questions about course material during lecture and office hours. If you e-mail her for a course administrative matter please put **SOCI 4490** in the subject heading. Ensure that your e-mail is no more than five lines long (to ensure that the course director has time to read all messages).

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce students to studies in sexual regulation with a focus on the Canadian context. The content, themes and focus are based on key works published in *Queerly Canadian: An introductory reader in sexuality studies* (2012), edited by Maureen FitzGerald and Scott Rayter. The book covers major events, topics, debates, scholarly studies, and theories in the field of sexuality studies. In so doing, it adopts a queer theory perspective coupled with a more general focus on sexual regulation studies. Attention will be devoted to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) studies in the interrelated areas of (a) identity, community and nation; (b) the state, the law, and the criminal justice system; (c) organization and political resistance; (d) health, medicine and expert knowledge; (e) work; (f) education; (g) marriage, parenting and the family; (h) sport; and (i) media and visual cultures.

**Course Evaluation**

Tutorial Participation: 20%  
Tutorial Assignments: 20%  
In Class Test 1: 20%  
In Class Test 2: 20%  
In Class Test 3: 20%

**Required Readings:**

FitzGerald, Maureen, and Scott Rayter, eds. *Queerly Canadian: An introductory reader in sexuality studies*. Canadian Scholars' Press, 2012.

**Accommodations:**

If you have disabilities documented by the University it is your responsibility to (a) inform the course director as soon as possible and (b) to provide official documentation of the accommodations required.

**Student Responsibilities:**

Students are responsible for all material covered in all lectures, including announced changes, guest lectures, presentations and audio-visual material. Students are also responsible for constructive discussion in class. If you miss a class *you* take full responsibility for any missed material or information. We strongly suggest you find two student buddies for information sharing if you miss a class or a point during class. Students must ensure that all requirements are completed on time. Do not ask the course director for what you missed when you were away.

**Visit the writing centers on campus:**

<http://www.yorku.ca/yorkweb/currentstudents/academicsupport/writingcentres.html>

The Online Resources of the York Arts Centre for Academic Writing provide important information about how to cite and reference scholarly work:

<http://www.arts.yorku.ca/caw/resources/html>

**Lateness Penalties & Missed Tests:**

\*Medical documentation attesting to your inability to write the test must be supplied for a missed in-class test.

\*It is the student's responsibility to contact the professor if a test is missed at the earliest possible date.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is a serious, punishable offence that can result in a departmental hearing, and in a failing grade. Plagiarism includes using the work of others without proper citation. This includes verbatim quotation from books, websites, assignments completed for other courses, etc. Always use quotation marks around words that are not your own and if you paraphrase the ideas of others you must attribute the idea to the appropriate author. See the university website:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/>

All essays and tests must be based on assigned course readings exclusively. Students may not use outside sources, readings, blogs, websites, readings found online or materials assigned in other courses to complete assignments. If students use non-course materials they will automatically receive a failing grade.

Visit the writing centers on campus:

<http://www.yorku.ca/yorkweb/currentstudents/academicsupport/writingcentres.html>

The Online Resources of the York Arts Centre for Academic Writing provide important information about how to cite and reference scholarly work:

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## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

### Introduction

*Sept. 9*

\*No Readings Assigned

### Thinking Queerly about Identity, Community and Action

*Sept. 16*

On the Myths of Sexual Orientation, Margot Francis (Chapter 1);

Outside in Black Studies, Rinaldo Walcott (Chapter 2);

Our Bodies are not Ourselves, Jean Bobby Noble (Chapter 3).

### The State, the Law, and the Criminal Justice System

*Sept. 23*

The Regulation of First Nations Sexuality, Martin Cannon (Chapter 4);

The Canadian Cold War on Queers, Gary Kinsman (Chapter 5);

Unknowable Bodies, Unthinkable Sexualities, Sara Lamble (Chapter 6).

### Organizing and Resistance

*Sept. 30*

Faith, Politics, and the Transformation of Canada, Tom Warner (Chapter 7);

Identity and Opportunity, Miriam Smith (Chapter 8);

Like Apples & Oranges, Becki Ross (Chapter 9).

### Health, Medicine, and the Experts

*Oct. 7 -- In Class Test 1*

On the Case of the Case, Steven Maynard (Chapter 10);

The Criminal Sexual Psychopath, Elise Chenier (Chapter 11);

Continental Drift, Richard Fung and Tim McCaskell (Chapter 12);

Emergence of a Poz Sexual Culture, Barry Adam (Chapter 13).

## **READING WEEK**

*No classes on Oct. 14*

### Sexuality and Work

*Oct. 21*

From Modern Babylon to a City upon a Hill, Carolyn Strange (Chapter 14);

We are Family, Gerald Hunt and Jonathan Eaton (Chapter 15);

Reframing Prostitution as Work, Deborah Brock (Chapter 16);  
Taking it Off, Putting it On, Chris Bruckert (Chapter 17).

### Sexuality and Education

*Oct. 28*

Gay and Out in Secondary School, John Guiney Yallop (Chapter 18);  
Canadian School Lethargy, David Rayside (Chapter 19);  
Sexing the Teacher, Sheila Cavanagh (Chapter 20).

### Marriage, Parenting and the Family

*Nov. 4 -- In Class Test 2*

That Repulsive Abnormal Creature I Heard of in That Book, Karen Duder (Chapter 21);  
Heterosexuality Goes Public, Karen Dubinsky (Chapter 22);  
A New Entity in the History of Sexuality, Mariana Valverde (Chapter 23);  
Queer Parenting in Canada in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Rachel Epstein (Chapter 24).

### Sexuality and Sport

*Nov. 11*

Sport and the Homoerotic Paradox, Brian Pronger (Chapter 25);  
Transsexual Bodies at the Olympics, Sheila Cavanagh and Heather Sykes (Chapter 26);  
Consuming Compassion, Samantha King (Chapter 27).

### Media and Visual Cultures

*Nov. 18*

FOBS, Banana Boy, and the Gay Pretenders, Andil Gosine (Chapter 32);  
The Hottentot Venus in Canada, Charmaine Nelson (Chapter 33);  
The Noble Savage Was a Drag Queen, Kerry Swanson, (Chapter 36).

### No (New) Readings Assigned - Review

*Nov. 25*

### No Readings Assigned

*Dec. 2 -- In Class Test 3*

**Note:** You will not receive your final test/assignment back. This work will be held in the Sociology Department. After you have received your final grade from York you may review your test/assignment at the Department. You may not take it out of the Department. Remember not to contact your professor for your final assignment mark, your involvement or attendance marks, or your final grade.